

Rebels Now Rule Half of Mexico

Official Information Shows Carranza Barely Clings to Control Over Rest.

HAS ONLY 60,000 TROOPS

President Is Too Weak to Keep Order as Bandits Harass Whole Country—Industry Snuffed Out and Morale at Low Ebb.

New York.—The Mexican problem was never more troublesome. Conditions in that revolution-racked land were never more chaotic than they are today. Carranza now controls little more than one-half of Mexican territory and his hold on that is not at all secure. Opposed to him are six organized rebel organizations, not including the Sonora Yaquis, while everywhere his authority is hampered and his troops harassed by organized banditry.

Bearing upon actual conditions in Mexico, the New York Times has come into possession of certain information, now in the official possession of the United States government. Verification of these statements which follow is to be found in the archives of the government in Washington.

Carranza has officially claimed that he is supported by a regular army of 120,000 well disciplined and well equipped troops. This statement is not borne out by the facts in the case, and the truth of the matter is that his armed forces number not more than 60,000 officers and enlisted men, who are poorly equipped, whose morale is at low ebb, yet upon whose loyalty depends Carranza's sway over a people who number more than 115,000,000.

Today the Coahuila "chieftain" is exercising authority in those parts of Mexico not under rebel or bandit domination as a dictator and through the promulgation of executive decrees. Of the great American border-line Carranza is in control of not much more than one-third, while the whole of southern Mexico is severed from "federal control" by a stretch of rebel-controlled territory that on the Atlantic extends from the rich oil lands of Tampico almost to the City of Vera Cruz, and on the Pacific by the entire coast line of the great state of Oaxaca. Lower California has become to all intents and purposes independent of the government that sits in Mexico City.

Three General Divisions.

The contending forces in Mexico may be referred to under three general heads. They are:

First.—The federal or Carranzista forces.

Second.—The rebel forces led by Felipe Angeles, Francisco Villa, Guillermo Meixuerio, a full-blooded Zapotec Indian, and by many well-informed observers considered the ablest and most trustworthy leader in Mexico; Felix Diaz, Manuel Pelaez, who dominates the Tampico and adjacent oil fields; the Zapatistas, still, despite Carranza's affirmation, a power in that part of Mexico of which the state of Morelos is the center; General Cantu, governor of the state of Lower California, and the organized Yaqui Indian forces of the western part of the border state of Sonora.

Third.—The bandits who, in small groups, are operating everywhere in Mexico.

As to the first or federal forces supporting Carranza, it is, as already pointed out, the official claim of the present Mexican, or Carranza, government, that this force numbers 120,000 men. It is a conscript army to a great extent and it is small and inefficient for two reasons, the first being Carranza's inability to enforce conscription, and the second the fact that he is unable properly to equip, train, or maintain necessary discipline.

Owing to these two conditions, over which Carranza appears to have no control, the federal army of Mexico is

today at its maximum strength. It is an army poorly organized and poorly equipped. Of this army a large proportion is held in or near Mexico City, leaving the remainder, numbering less than a full division, according to the American organization, to guard and maintain supremacy in the states of Nuevo Leon, eastern Coahuila, southern Durango, Hidalgo, San Luis Potosi, Guanajuato, Queretaro, Michoacan, Jalisco, Tepic, Zacatecas, Guerrero, Colima, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan, Tabasco, Quintana Roo, and the eastern or Atlantic edge of the state of Vera Cruz, which territory on paper remains under federal control.

The big transcontinental stretch of rebel-controlled territory, which averages more than 100 miles in width, and which forms an unbroken barrier from ocean to ocean, completely separates the federal-controlled states of the south—Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan, Tabasco, part of Vera Cruz and Quintana Roo—from the states or parts of states over which Carranza still holds sway in the north.

Villa Forces Strongest.

Of the organized opposition groups which are seeking to overthrow Carranza, the most powerful is that which is operating in Chihuahua and neighboring states under Angeles and Villa. The Villistas, as this force is popularly known, is not the unorganized, poorly equipped, and undisciplined force that a great many people in this country think it is. It is, on the other hand, probably the best organized and equipped military organization in Mexico. It numbers 10,000 men commanded by Angeles, the French trained rebel leader, with Villa second in command. It is well equipped with rifles and is said to have a fairly well organized artillery arm, and the Villistas fire the best ammunition, which, as a rule, is American made and is smuggled across the Rio Grande by "gun runners."

The Angeles-Villa forces are today practically in control of the entire state of Chihuahua, a large part of Durango, the eastern part of Sonora, and the western part of Carranza's own state of Coahuila.

The one part of Chihuahua that Angeles and Villa do not control is the border city of Juarez, opposite El Paso, and they would today be in possession of that much-needed border port but for the fact that they brought about American intervention in their plans by firing over the border into the Texas city. The Americans did not go to Juarez to help Carranza, as some people think, but solely for the purpose of safeguarding the lives of Americans on the Texas side of the Rio Grande.

The next more important rebel force in Mexico is that under command of Manuel Pelaez, who dominates the oil-producing regions of the Tampico country. Pelaez has under his command 3,000 well organized and fairly well equipped men. The value of the foreign oil interests in the territory in which Pelaez is operating is estimated at more than \$300,000,000. Pelaez is said to be pro-ally in sentiment, and to this is due in large part the failure of the Germans and their Carranzista sympathizers to gain control of the oil fields while the European war was actively under way.

Allies Like Meixuerio.

Under Guillermo Meixuerio, in the state of Oaxaca, is another rebel force of several thousand well organized men. Carranza has made desperate but ineffectual efforts to dislodge Meixuerio, who is easily one of his most feared opponents, and whose record is such as to win the sympathetic approval of the allies. Meixuerio is a full-blooded Zapotec, a lawyer, and a man of fine education.

Next in importance among the rebel groups is that commanded by Felix Diaz. Under Diaz, according to official information, there are approximately 5,000 men. The Diaz forces, however, unlike those under Pelaez, Angeles and Meixuerio, are loosely organized and are said to be in great

Bat on Shoulder Called Good Luck in Poker Game.

Canton, O.—Mystery surrounding the purchase of live bats at \$10 by Cantonians was solved when one of the purchasers explained that bats bring good luck.

During the last several weeks a number of bats have been sold in Canton. Advertisements have been run in the newspapers and many persons are anxious to obtain them.

"If you keep a bat in your pocket or let it perch on your shoulder when you sit in a game of cards, you are sure to have good luck," remarked one bat owner. He added he knew a man in Chicago who owned a bat and he always had good luck.

need of ammunition and other war materials. Despite this handicap, however, the Felicistas, as the Diaz rebels are known, continue to be a force, and all the efforts of Carranza to break up the organization have failed. The Felicistas are operating in the state of Tamaulipas in the north and in part of Hidalgo, Puebla, and Vera Cruz in the south. The southern Felicista area forms the center link in the rebel ocean barrier.

The state of Morelos and small parts of the states of Mexico and Guerrero form the area in which the famous Zapatistas are and have been operating for the last seven years. As for Cantu, in Lower California, the situation there can be dismissed with a word. Cantu is in absolute control of that part of Mexico, and Carranza is making no effort to interfere with the independent state that Cantu has set up.

Smuggle Arms In.

The seventh of Carranza's troubles are the Yaquis of western Sonora. They are operating in bandit groups and number probably several thousand. Like the Villistas, they are armed and equipped by smuggling from the United States. The Yaquis are among the hardest and best fighters in Mexico, and little if any effort is being made by the federal government to restore order in that part of Sonora under their domination.

Lastly, the bandits. Official reports prove that everywhere in Mexico the outlaw bands are to be found. Their number is unknown; but they are powerful enough to hold the attention of a considerable part of Carranza's hard-pressed little regular army of 60,000 men.

Briefly, what precedes gives the line-up of the factions that are fighting for control of Mexico.

Here are some of the facts, officially established, that have resulted from the country-wide internecine strife in Mexico.

Economically Mexico is in the midst of a crisis which is characterized by the intense poverty and the actual want of the great mass of the people. The morale of the population everywhere was never lower than at the present time. The general health of the people is everywhere bad. Cattle raising, the principal industry of the nation, is today only about ten per cent of what it was in 1914. Of all Mexican industries, the growing of henequen alone shows progress. All textile factories and sugar mills, with a few exceptions, are out of business, and those that are operating are run down and in need of repair. Practically all of the country's 10,000 miles of railroads are demoralized or destroyed as a result of rebel and bandit activity. Not a cent of interest has been paid on the national foreign debt in more than five years.

More than 75 per cent of the population is now absolutely illiterate. The national credit is gone, and the foreign oil interests are, despite the apparent friendly attitude of Pelaez, menaced. As an indication of the health of the people, latest reports estimate the yearly death rate in Mexico City is 21,000, while the reported birth rate is only 7,500. It is believed, however, that a correct census would show a larger birth rate, although the 7,500 estimate is official.

At the present time all reliable reports coming out of Mexico indicate the precarious condition of the Carranza government. Carranza has been during the past three years probably the most pro-German head of a state in the western hemisphere.

Openly Pro-German.

Until recently his attitude has been unfriendly to the United States, and when he thought Germany was winning he made no efforts to conceal his sympathy for the Teutons. Legislation that was passed during the war and which was directed against the allied oil holdings in the Tampico country is generally believed, in private as well as official circles, to have been inspired by German interests and representatives in Mexico. Protests against this legislation have been filed by the American, British and French governments.

Since he developed his anti-American attitude Carranza has fanned his supporters with the slogan of "Latin American Solidarity" against the great northern republic, and today the most generally developed trait in the majority of Mexicans in federal controlled territory is that of anti-Americanism.

Popcorn Debauch.

San Francisco.—Frank Fischer sued Mary Reilly, nineteen, for \$50. He lost. Mary told the judge he gave her the money to buy popcorn and peanuts and she spent it in one evening.

WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR YOU

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest, and Other Things Worth Knowing.

Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau has been accepted by the government as German minister to Austria.

The Winnipeg trades and labor council has voted almost unanimously in favor of the "one big union."

The steamship Rotterdam, with Secretary of State Lansing on board, left Brest for New York Tuesday.

The Berlin Tageblatt says it learns the allies and associated powers will not ask Holland to give up the former emperor, William, for trial, but they will request Germany to demand from Holland that he be delivered up.

A single tree of Capri figs situated in an orange orchard at Porterville, Cal., purchased recently by the Rev. A. H. Zahl, retired pastor of the Emmanuel Evangelical church, netted the owner \$200 in one season, it became known recently.

Twenty-five persons were injured, several probably fatally, when lightning struck a crowded street car in the center of the downtown district of Pittsburg during a severe electrical storm Tuesday. A number of women and children were trampled in a panic which followed.

Fourteen white men were arrested Tuesday on warrants charging "assault with intent to murder" in connection with the pitched gun fight between white men and negroes at Longview, Tex., last Friday. The men were released on \$1000 bonds each pending action by the county grand jury.

During the noon hour Tuesday, while the dining room was filled with guests, Ted Ross shot and instantly killed his wife in the kitchen of a hotel at Lewistown, Mont., where she was employed as a cook. He then shot and perhaps fatally wounded Enid Milton, a 14-year-old girl, and killed himself.

Eighty-seven persons are known to have been drowned and the loss of life may have been much greater in a hurricane which swept the port of Valparaiso, Chile, Saturday and Sunday. Fourteen vessels of various sizes were sunk and about 100 lighters and other small craft were destroyed. The property loss is estimated at \$70,000,000.

After deliberating less than one hour, the coroner's jury impaneled to determine the cause of the death of Frederick A. Dowsey, special agent of the United States shipping board at Seattle, May 2, returned a verdict that Dowsey died of natural causes, probably apoplexy, and was not murdered as had been alleged.

The newly organized Pacific fleet will sail from Hampton roads July 19 instead of July 22 as previously arranged. It was decided late Monday at a conference between Secretary Daniels and Admiral Hugh Rodman, commander of the fleet. The date of the fleet's arrival at San Diego, Cal., was fixed at August 7 or 8.

The first test case under war-time prohibition to be filed in the Chicago federal district was started Tuesday by Chas. F. Clyne, United States district attorney, against the Stenson Brewing company, a Chicago concern. The suit charges that the company manufactured beer containing more than 1/2 of 1 per cent alcohol.

A final decree dismissing all damage suits against the Cunard Steamship company as the result of the torpedoing of the Lusitania, and barring any similar suits which might be brought in the future, was signed on Wednesday in the United States district court by Judge Julius M. Mayer at New York. A total of 64 claims, totaling between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000, had been brought against the company.

Fighting all night with savage thunder storms over Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, all four of the army balloons which left Fort Omaha Sunday evening in an attempt to set a new record for both height and distance, were forced to land Monday morning, their instruments put out of commission by electrical disturbances and their ballast exhausted. No new records were established and the aeronauts were fortunate in landing safely.

'DRYS' BLOCK ALL MOVES

All "Liberal" Amendments to Law Are Killed in House.

Washington, D. C.—Prohibition forces took full control in the house Monday, refused to permit a vote on a straight-out motion to repeal the war-time act, defeated overwhelmingly an amendment providing for the sale of 2 1/2 per cent beer and stood solidly against all attacks on the general enforcement measure.

Just as fast as one "liberal" amendment was offered by opponents of prohibition it was voted down without ceremony, always by a triple vote, for the minority, fighting every inch of ground, demanded a division after ayes and noes were called, and then asked for tellers. Before the house got through with the first section of the first part of the three-part bill, there was more disorder on the floor than at any time this session.

The disturbance arose first during an attempt by Representative Blanton, democrat, Texas, to speak a second time against an amendment which would have given a jury the right to define intoxicants, and was increased during an address by Representative Gallivan, democrat, Massachusetts, who declared members voting dry should print in the congressional record exactly how much liquor they had stored in their homes and offices.

The real battle of the day, however, was over the amendment to define a non-intoxicant as a beverage containing 2 1/2 per cent alcohol, instead of 1/2 of 1 per cent, as written in the bill. Representative Dyer, republican, Missouri, author of the amendment, did not ask for this definition in the constitutional amendment, but simply in the wartime law. In pleading for its adoption, Mr. Dyer declared it was what President Wilson had recommended to congress and would permit, during the remaining period of war-time prohibition, the sale of light wines and beer, and might delay issuance of a proclamation by the president which would restore the sale of "hard" liquors.

'INSIDE' OF TREATY SOUGHT BY SENATE

Washington, D. C.—The senate foreign relations committee Monday approved three resolutions asking President Wilson for information bearing on the Versailles negotiations, thereby paving the way for detailed consideration of the peace treaty.

The resolutions concern the Shantung settlement, an alleged secret understanding between Japan and Germany, and the failure to recognize Costa Rica as a belligerent.

The committee took no action on President Wilson's suggestion that he explain directly disputed points of the peace settlement, though the president reiterated to his supporters at the capital his readiness to consult with the committee members. With several senators not on the committee he also discussed at the White House certain features of the treaty.

Daylight Saving May Last Several Years

Washington, D. C.—The daylight-saving plan under which the clocks of the country are turned forward an hour in March and moved back in October, will be continued indefinitely.

This was assured Monday, when following President Wilson's veto of the \$33,000,000 agricultural appropriation bill because of its rider repealing the daylight saving act, the house refused by a vote of 247 to 135 to pass the measure over the president's veto. Strength mustered by the repeal advocates was eight votes less than the necessary two-thirds of the members present. Party lines were disregarded in the voting, members from agricultural districts, the source of most of the opposition—favoring passage of the bill as originally enacted—voting with representatives from the urban districts opposing.

Academy Has New Principal.

Joseph A. Hill, whose father was principal of Bishop Scott Academy years ago, is the new principal of Hill Military Academy, Portland. Mr. Hill is successful in managing the school and it has just completed a brilliant term under his leadership.

The cadets at Hill wear uniform, they learn to march and so to carry themselves well, they are right up in their studies and are frequently invited to society affairs where they meet Portland's leading families.

Fire Destroys Invention

San Rafael, Cal.—Fire which wiped out the laboratory here of Leon S. Douglass, inventor of colored motion picture photography, caused serious loss in the destruction of inventions in the process of development, it was announced Tuesday. Mrs. Victoria Douglass, wife of the inventor, fought the flames single-handed before the arrival of the fire department, and saved the residence adjoining the laboratory.

FULL PEACE TERMS GIVEN TO AUSTRIA

Allies Grant 15 Days for Final Observations.

ARMY TO BE REDUCED

Reparation Clauses Similar to Those in German Treaty—Cash Payment Demanded.

Paris.—The full peace conditions of the allied and associated powers are now in the hands of the Austrians. The first section of the terms were presented to the Austrian delegates at St. Germain on June 2, the final sections were delivered to them at the same place Sunday without ceremony by M. Dutasta, secretary-general of the peace conference.

The terms comprise the whole treaty which Austria is asked to sign, including the reparation, financial, military and certain other minor clauses, which were not ready for presentation when the official ceremony took place.

Fifteen days are granted the Austrians in which to make their final observations, although they have already submitted a large number of notes on the terms previously submitted to them.

In addition to the published summary of the terms of June 2, the new clauses provide for reparation arrangements very similar to those in the treaty with Germany, including the establishment of an Austrian subsection of the reparations commission, the payment of a reasonable sum in cash, the issuing of bonds and the delivery of livestock and certain historical and art documents.

The financial terms provide that the Austria pre-war debts shall be apportioned among the various former parts of Austria, and that the Austrian coinage and war bonds circulating in the separated territory shall be taken up by the new governments and redeemed as they see fit.

Under the military terms the Austrian army is henceforth reduced to 30,000 men on a purely voluntary basis.

Paragraph five, relating to the military, says that the Austrian army shall not exceed 30,000 men, including officers and depot troops. Within three months the Austrian military forces shall be reduced to this number, universal military service abolished and voluntary enlistment substituted.

The army shall be used exclusively for the maintenance of internal order and control of frontiers. All officers must be regulars, those of the present army to be retained being under the obligation to serve until 40 years old; those newly appointed agreeing at least to 20 consecutive years of active service. Non-commissioned officers and privates must enlist for not less than 12 consecutive years, including at least six years with the colors.

BUDAPEST IS TAKEN BY TERROR TROOPS

Berlin.—A new reign of terror exists in Budapest, according to a dispatch from the Hungarian capital to the Tageblatt. "Red terror," in its worst form, is anticipated.

The dispatch says so-called "terror troops" are now masters of the capital and that they have stormed the garrison, disarmed the troops of the Bela Kun government and distributed arms to the "ragged proletariat."

The leader of the "terror troops," who was Bela Kun's personal guard of honor, publishes an appeal for volunteers and the people's commissaries Varga and Szamuely and vice-commissary of foreign affairs Mosselapary, the new leaders in control, have sent an ultimatum to the "moderate" city commander of Budapest, Habrich, ordering him to give up office and turn over the city to them.

Foch Says England Lags.

London.—"The next time, England will be in the same position as the last time—she will not be ready and we will have to wait for her," is a statement made by Marshal Foch of France to a correspondent of the Daily Mail.

The marshal insists that Great Britain should maintain large reserves of military material, saying:

"That is one of the obvious and indispensable precautions to be taken."

Women Lose in Georgia.

Atlanta, Ga.—Ratification of the federal woman suffrage amendment was defeated in the Georgia senate Tuesday when a motion to disagree with a committee report against ratification was lost by a vote of 37 to 12.

COMFORT FOR OUR MERCHANT SAILORS



The mattress and pillows used in the berths of the sailors and firemen aboard government-operated merchant vessels not only are comfortable, but make fine life preservers. Their filling is a soft, resilient tropical fiber known as kapoc, which will sustain 25 times its own weight in salt water for 48 hours.